

The Democratic Pioneer.

TRUTH, JUSTICE AND THE CONSTITUTION

ELIZABETH CITY, N. C., TUESDAY MORNING, JANUARY 8, 1856.

VOL. 6--NO. 23

BY L. D. STARKE.

DEMOCRATIC PIONEER.

L. D. STARKE,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

TERMS.
Single copy, one year, \$2 50
Five copies, one year, \$11 00
Ten copies, one year, \$20 00
RATES OF ADVERTISING.
A square of 16 lines or less, first insertion
every subsequent one, 25 cents. Annual
advertisements made on favorable terms.
Office corner of Main and Road Street.

POETRY.

THE LIFE CLOCK.

There is a little mystic clock,
No human eye hath seen;
It breatheth on—and breatheth on,
From morning until even.

When the soul is wrapped in sleep,
And breatheth not a sound,
And ticks the livelong night,
And never runneth down.

It is that work of art
Which knells the passing hour,
And ne'er formed, nor mind conceived
The life-clock's magic power.

It is in gold, nor decked with gems,
By wealth and pride possessed;
And poor, or high or low,
Each bears it in his breast.

It is the deep stream, 'mid beds of flowers
And still and softly glides,
The wavelet's stop, with a gentle heart,
And warns of passing tides.

It is the darkness gathers o'er,
And gleams of bright visions flee,
The sudden stroke of the muffled oar,
And death's heavy tread.

It is the clock that measures life,
And flush and spirit blent;
It is the twill run within the breast,
And that strange life is ended.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WAGER OF BATTLE.

HENRY WILLIAM HERBERT.

The third crusade was ended; the night-
hounds, which had rolled, a deluge of
from the utmost shores of Europe,
and the cold Norwegian mountains and
the black fogs of Jutland, the sunny vales
of the Rhine, the Oder, and the Dan-
ube, the tideless waters of the Levantine
Sea, and the sultry sands of Syria, had
all retired.

Myriads of bones, relics of knights and
paladins and peers, lay bleaching
under the blazing suns of Palestine; and
the charnel in Europe, from the Palace of
the sovereign to the hovel of the villager,
had lost a familiar, a friend, brother,
son, or mother.

Slowly by two and threes, the survivors
of the crusade, often to find them-
selves forgotten by their own friends,
to domestic usages, their titles antici-
pated, their marriages banns invaded, by
the enemies, impatient heirs to tri-
umphal rivals.

All kinds of society were relaxed, if
dissolved—the holiest ties have been
broken, and new relationships contracted,
where the plea, as often feigned as real,
rumored death, or desertion, or infidel-
ity, had been the excuse.

True lords and faithful spouses ling-
ered in the dungeons, whence they
ought have been ransomed, but for the
convenience of adulterous wives and
treacherous paramours.

False accusations floated on every wind,
treason, witchcraft and adultery
were alleged against all who had ought to
be, by all who had anything to gain.

In England, disorder and confusion of
the mind and the nobles of his peers were
sent, the fierce but generous Cœur de
lion, the noblest of his kind, languishing in
his Austrian prison, and the undaunted
nobles, dead on the fields of Palestine or
pinning in the wars of the Saracens.

In France, the wily and sagacious mon-
arch, Philip Augustus, had returned with
weakness and despondency, but not
without heroic efforts for the future of
the holy sepulchre, had prudent-
ly determined to leave to the Templars the
charge of the Temple, and to occupy her-
self in righting the rule of his realm, re-
solving the outrageousness of his fierce
adulthood, combating the usurpations
of the church, and administering justice,
in those days it was wont to be adminis-
tered, more frequently by the sword, than
the scales of that blind divinity.

It was on a lovely April morning, that
the bells of Notre Dame tolled, long and
loud, from the early dawn, giving note
of the strange ceremonies of feudal
warfare, a judicial combat, and ere the sun
had fairly risen, the streets and dwellings
beyond what is now known to us as an-
cient Paris, were thronged with multitudes,
of every age and sex and class of

society, streaming toward the *Pres aux clercs*, a celebrated stretch of meadowland
not far removed from the city, which seems
to have been applied, from time almost im-
memorial to the days of the league and the
reign of Henri Quatre, to the observance of
the duello, whether as method of obtaining
public justice, or of avenging private
wrong.

Under any circumstances, in those days,
a judicial combat would necessarily com-
mand such a concourse, as is now-a-days
collected, in England, by a famous horse-
race; in republican France, by an imperial
progress; or in these United States by the
reception of some patriot swindler, or
loose opera dancer—and certainly with as
much show of reason; since the pageantry
and display were far more striking, the in-
cidents incomparably more picturesque
and exciting and the interest, involving life
and death, infamy and honor; all the breath-
less anxiety, with none of the cold-blooded
brutality of the gladiatorial arena, the
greatest that can be imagined.

To all these common inducements there
was added, in this case, the stimulus of
curiosity, for there was a deep mystery and
romance—of sympathy, for there was a
woman, young and exquisitely beautiful,
in the controversy—of pity, and of cruelty,
as either prevailed in the temperament of
the spectators, for there was a very reason-
able chance, after slaughter in the list of
one or the other of the champions, of these
being that young and beautiful woman
burnt at the stake, together with her in-
fant child, should the wager of the battle
be decided against her.

Enquerrand de Chastelmorant, so stout
the case, a powerful baron of the Limousin,
famous over all France for his indomitable
courage, untempered with much of chival-
rous or gentle valor, and for his savage
prowess, and infamous, even in those dark
and bloody days, for his haughtiness, his
avarice and his cruel pride, had taken to
wife, on the very eve of setting sail for the
Holy Land, Yscolte d'Aloise, known as
the Rosebud of Auvergne, already, though
scarce yet a marriageable maiden, the peer-
less and admitted beauty of all Languedoc.

It was well known, that on the lady's
part the compact had been entered into not
reluctantly, but under actual compulsion.
The crusading mania, then at its very
height, her father, an aged knight im-
poverished by the heavy ransom he had paid
on several occasions being obliged to pay as pro-
portionate to his renown in arms, lacking
the means to furnish forth a following suit-
able to his rank, and bent on winning
heaven by leaving earth in Palestine, had
literally sold his daughter to the savage
Enquerrand, for means to equip his men-
at-arms, and secure transportation to the
Holy Land.

Much wonder and some indignation had
been called forth at the time and wasted;
and even in the marriage there had been
mystery. For it was notorious, that one
condition of that unhallowed compact had
fixed the hour of the nuptials for that im-
mediately preceding the departure of the
Count de Chastelmorant; and that he and
his bride had parted, he sullen and savage,
she half dead and despairing, without one
moment's privacy at the door of the church;
where she had been made a bride, protesting
and refusing to the last, though her
refusals and reasons were drowned as much
by the objurgations of her father, as by the
loud chanting of the choristers and the
deep diapason of the swelling organ.

They never met again, till returned from
the Holy Land, where her father had fallen
in the first onslaught with the infidels,
the cruel Enquerrand found his young
bride an orphan and—a mother.

He had accused her as a foul adulteress;
and, in spite of her assertion that she was
wedded to another—to the young Perducas
de Caracassonne—and that she had de-
clared as such even at the altar—since Per-
ducas, who sailed before the hated mar-
riage had been planned, with Richard the
Lion Heart his liege lord for fiefs in Gui-
enne and Anjou, had not returned, nor was to
be heard of anywhere, she was confirmed,
and must have suffered, but for her appeal
to that last resort of the innocent and op-
pressed, the judgement of God, by wager
of battle.

A desperate resort it seemed, and indeed
the last. For partly the world-wide re-
nown for savage prowess and gigantic
strength of Enquerrand de Chastelmorant,
and, yet more than this, the general belief,
that young and lovely and cruelly oppressed
woman as she was admitted to have been had
deterred any one from buckling her cause;
and even at the eleventh hour she was un-
championed and unfriended.

That was a terrible and solemn, yet most
gorgeous, scene. The meadow, for a space
of three hundred yards in length, by half
that breadth, had been enclosed by a stout
wooden barrier, covered by splendid tape-
stries, and overlooked by rows of balconies,
like seats in a modern theatre, all blazing
with draperies of cloth of gold and velvet,
and overshadowed by the banners of the
ancient aristocracy and chivalry of France.

At one end of the lists stood a huge crimson
chair, in which sat Enquerrand de
Chastelmorant, all armed, save his head,
with his golfriver in arms, sheathed cap-
a-pie in steel beside him, and three pages,
one holding his war horse, and the others
holding his casque, his lance and his shield,
a little way in the rear.

At the other extremity, in a similar
chair, but covered with black serge, sat the
beautiful Yscolte, paler than the white
eyar which alone veiled her peerless
features from the gaze of the sympathizing
multitude; yet as steadfast and serene as if
she had been a mere spectator of the show.

On her lap sat the innocent child—innocent,
surely, whether his miserable mother
or should be condemned or not, destined to
share her fate—a noble looking boy with
bright blue eyes, and curly chestnut locks;
though the professed unbaptized tresses of
Yscolte were black as the raven's wing,
and like them glossed with warm metallic
purple, when the gay sunbeams flouted
them; though her deep, long-fringed eyes
were of the tenderest hazel hue.

Yet those eyes she dared not turn on
him, her darling, even for a moment,
though his caressing fingers patting her
fair cheeks, and playing with her dishevel-
led ringlets, solicited her attention; and the
spectators might observe that, at those soft
solicitations, a quick shudder ran through
her whole frame, otherwise so self-sustain-
ed and tranquil; and that she closed her
eyes at each touch of his rosy fingers, and
that her lips moved, as if in silent prayer.

Behind her, black and horrid, stood the
bideous stake, with its paraphernalia of
fetters and iron collars; and the fagots piled
around it, with the grim executioner await-
ing her expected doom, shocked even the
least pitiful of the spectators.

Before her lay the smooth arena, on
which her fate should be decided; full in
her sight frowned, savage and unrelent-
ing, her detested persecutor.

Beside her, was nor friend, nor com-
forter nor champion.

Around the lists were collected nobles and
knights, and senators and churchmen,
dames and demoiselles, and even lisping
children—her peers, her equals, many of
them her friends, but, though many a man-
ly lip quivered with excitement, and many
a female eye filled with tears, no one of all
that crowd so much as recognized her by a
glance.

High in the centre, right opposite the
spot where the champions should encounter,
in a raised lodge of royal decoration, sat
Philip the August; and all men might
see that his brow was gloomy; and that the
hand in which he held the warlike trembled
anxiously. The mind of the great king
was ill at ease. He knew black Enquerrand
de Chastelmorant and he doubted—

He saw that the fair Yscolte had no cham-
pion, and he chafed.

And now the bells of Notre Dame clang-
ed for high noon. It was the fatal hour.

And Enquerrand de Chastelmorant ad-
vanced, with his golfriver, to the altar in
front of the royal chair, and took the holy
sacrament; and swore upon that hallowed
bread, the mystic body of the everlasting
and all-seeing God, that his cause was just
on earth and in sight of heaven,—so might
he, that day, thrive or perish.

Then his golfriver laced on his casque
and closed his visor; and he vaulted into
the saddle of his mighty war-horse without
touching the stirrup; and, as they placed
his lance in his hand he laid it in rest,
with the point slightly elevated, and sat
there, at his own end of the lists, himself
and his charger as motionless as if they had
been one solid effigy of carved steel.

But as this passed, an incident occurred
which stirred every human heart of the be-
holders to its core. For as Enquerrand
swore, the beautiful boy on Yscolte's lap
rose to his feet, steadying himself with his
right hand on his mother's shoulder, while
with his left he shaded his eyes against
the sun, and gazed steadfastly, but with a
frowning brow, full in the eye of the ac-
cuser.

Then loud and shrill went up the clear
flourish of the trumpets, and the cry of the
French herald:

"Oyez! oyez! oyez! Here stands Sir
Enquerrand de Chastelmorant, good knight
and true, to prove with his body, dame
Yscolte, called of Chastelmorant, a vile
adulteress and traitress, so help him God,
and good St. Denis."

Then, on the instant, though no one of
all the crowd expected such an issue, for
no sign was visible of any knight or cham-
pion on the ground another trumpet an-
swered, shriller and cheerier than the other;
and casting off a coat and flapped cap of
serge, Clarenceux King at Arms, the
English herald, stepped from among the
crowd into the lists.

"Oyez! oyez! oyez! Here stands Sir
Perducas de Caracassonne, good knight
and loyal, to prove here with his body that
Yscolte de Caracassonne is pure wife, as she
was peerless dame, and that Sir Enquerrand
de Chastelmorant lies in his teeth and in
his throat; false knight, forsworn gen-
tleman, traitor, recreant, and dastard—

And this will he prove on his body with
his lance, so help him God. And so Saint
George for merry England."

And as he made proclamation, wheeling
from behind the galleries which concealed
them, two knights rode into the lists, arm-
ed in bright steel from spur to bayonet,
with the red cross of St. George upon their
surcoats, full of high confidence and spirit,
as were their horses of fiery mettle.

In the younger, though few knew him,
such as had fought in Palestine recognized
the best lance of Anjou, the famous Per-
ducas de Caracassonne—while in the spare
sinewy frame, and the dark stern features
of his godfather, they had not to look twice
for they discerned Thomas de Multon the
Lord Vaux of Gilsland, the wisest head
in council, and right hand in the melee of
Richard Cœur de Lion.

Yscolte's dark eyes flashed fire, and her
whole face lighted up, radiant and clear in
the presence of certain triumph, as she
murmured scarce audibly,—My glorious
husband! and her boy, like to the young
champion as one drop of water to its
sister drop, clasped his hands joyously as
the proud warriors caroled around the lists,
though all unconscious of their connection
with his fate, and cried "Brave! brave!"
as loud as his little voice permitted him,
his whole face blazing with delight.

Advancing to the altar Perducas and de
Vaux dismounted; and the former swore,
as the law enjoined, and craved of the
king a fair field whereon with equal weap-
ons to prove Enquerrand de Chastelmorant
a liar in his throat, a murderer and a trait-
or.

Philip assented, and as he raised his
fine deep voice he cried, "May God de-
cide the right!" his eye beamed graciously
on the young Perducas, and lowered as it
fell upon the giant frame of his antagonist.

One instant the enemies sat, like iron
statues, gazing at each other through the
bars of their armailures. Then as de
Multon tossed his naked sword aloft and
shouted "Laissez aller!" they charged with
almost the speed and brilliancy of the light-
ning so violent was their impetus and so
vivid the flashing of their panoply, and

met in the centre of the lists with a crash
and clang that made the earth tremble.

For ten seconds, no eye could see what
had occurred; so thickly was the dust turn-
ed up by the chargers, checked in their
mad career, and reeling half overthrown
on their haunches. But as the cloud
cleared off, it was plain to see that the
lance of Perducas was unbroken, its point
having torn away the crest of Enquerrand's
helmet, and that he was as firm in his stir-
rups as though but a bulrush had touched
him. Yet his own shield was pierced
through and through, while his enemy's
lance shivered to the transverse, showed
how tremendous had been the shock, and
how great de Chastelmorant's prowess.

That knight too had lost little of his old
renown, for though he was bowed back-
wards till the plume of his helmet was
mingled with his charger's tail, and tho'
one foot had lost a stirrup, he recovered
his seat and spurred up his charger, and
exchanged haughty defiance with Sir Per-
ducas, as they passed each other to regain
their stations.

A fresh lance was given to Enquerrand;
but Perducas launched his own high into
the air, and making his charger spring for-
ward, caught it by the middle as it fell,
and had it in the rest already ere his en-
emy's was couched to the onset.

Again the word was given; again they
met in terrible career; while every heart
stood still, and every frame shivered
with the dreadful excitement—for all felt
that this must be decisive.

It was decisive.

Again both steeds recoiled, and fell on
their haunches; but Perducas although
his helmet was torn off and driven to the
other end of the lists, while his enemy's
lance again flew in splinters, easily re-
covered his brave barb, and brandishing the
truncheon of his spear, was dashing for-
ward to engage hand to hand, when En-
querrand, who had sat stiff on his horse
as if unconscious and half paralyzed after
the first shock, sprang up in his seat with
a wild, unearthly shriek—"Seigneur Dieu!
Seigneur Dieu! Lord God! Lord God!"

—guilty! guilty! and fell headlong from
his saddle to the earth, where he lay, with
all his powerful frame relaxed and motion-
less, as if it were not for a terrible convulsive
shivering that made every plate of his ar-
mor jar and rattle, till, with another pierc-
ing cry, he stretched himself out rigidly
and all was over.

The justification of Yscolte and the full
establishment of her honor need not be de-
scribed—though it was shown on evidence
firmer than we should now deem the result
of the battle. For Thomas de Multon had
witnessed, and the priest was in his train
who had performed the ceremony. Her
meeting with her lover, husband, cham-
pion, and preserver, must be imagined for
words cannot compass it.

And Perducas de Caracassonne, as he wept
tears of pious gratitude over his rescued
son, forgot not to give thanks to the Lord
of Hosts, that he had shown his presence
and made his judgment known in the WA-
GER OF BATTLE.

HARDWARE, CUTLERY AND GUNS,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL,
FALL 1855.

ALLEN, ROSE & CAPPS,
TAKE PLEASURE in calling the attention
of their Virginia and North Carolina
friends, (especially the Mercantile class), to their
extensive assortment of **GENERAL HARD-
WARE**, a large portion of which was im-
ported with a special view to the Fall and Winter
wholesale trade, and the Merchant, Mechanic
and Farmer, will bear in mind, that under the
circumstances of our not being able to make
our usual fall sales our assortment of hardware,
can be purchased on wholesale terms, at greatly
reduced prices. Call and examine for your-
selves.

CITY FASHIONABLE ESTABLISHMENT,
50 Main Street.

MRS. M. A. BUTT respectfully an-
nounces the opening of her
WINTER FASHIONS,
and a handsome assortment of
FRENCH MILLINERY,
on Wednesday, Nov. 21st. As circumstances
prevented Mrs. Butt from presenting her bills as
usual, at the close of the past season, she ear-
nestly requests those indebted to her to call as
early as they can and settle.

SALT! SALT!
THE subscriber has in store and for sale
1000 Bush St. Ube Salt.
500 Bush. Cadiz salt.
B. T. MILLER,
Broadwater street.

RAGS, &c.
THE SUBSCRIBER will give the highest
cash prices for rags and old metals of
every description.
PETER DILWORTH, Wide Water st.
Next to Ferguson & Wilkinson's Ast. store.
Norfolk, Va., Nov. 27, 1855.

STRIPED AND PLAIN SWISS MUSLIN,
only \$1 25 per piece of 10 yards, cheaper
goods ever seen in Norfolk. The Bee Hive is the
place of course. JAMES SMITH,
33 Main street.

**A SPLENDID LOT OF CANES AND UM-
brellas, India Rubber Clothing, 75 dozen
Collars, Standing and Byron, of every cut for
BOYS AND MEN.**
FRANK VAUGHAN & CO
nov 9

MATRESSES! MATRESSES!
The subscriber has made arrangements
to keep constantly on hand **MATRESSES,**
B. T. MILLER,
Broadwater street.

MISS BUNKLEY'S GREAT BOOK
COME AT LAST!
THE TESTIMONY OF AN ESCAPED NO-
VICE from the Sisterhood of St. Joseph,
Emmettsburg, Maryland.
This very thrilling work has at last made its
appearance, and every one should have a copy.
Price \$1. Just published and for sale by
VICKERY & GRIFFITH,
Norfolk, Va.

KEEP POSTED!
1000
J. W. T. & J. M. HINTON.

**LARGE ASSORTMENT OF CLOTHS, CASES,
Mantles, Vestings, &c., for Cloaks, Overcoats
Pants, &c.**
Any article of Clothing, including Shirts
Drawers, &c., made at shortest notice.
FRANK VAUGHAN & CO
dec 9

CONSUMPTION.

Successfully treated by inhalation of Medicated
Vapors, by John Stewart Rose M. D.,
Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, and
for years Senior Physician in the London Royal
Infirmary for the diseases of the Lungs.

In this age of progress Medical Science has
conquered her full share to the general welfare,
and that which shines resplendent, the bright-
est jewel in her diadem, is Medicated Vapor In-
halation, in the treatment of Consumption and
kindred affections. The treatment hitherto pur-
sued has been faulty and inefficient; the stom-
ach is made the receptacle of nauseous com-
pounds, oils and a host of other nostrums, all
these, too, being expected to act on the Lungs.

The failure to eradicate or even stop the ravages
of the disease in nearly every case of well de-
veloped Consumption, is surely warning enough
to the consumptive, to shun such treatment—
The disease is not in the stomach, but in the
Lungs, common sense then will teach you, that
medicine applied in the form of Vapor, directly
to the diseased surface of the Lungs, will be far
more effectual than medicine taken into the
stomach. The success of Medicated Vapor In-
halation in treating Consumption, the Lungs, ex-
ceeds my most sanguine expectations. I offer
to embrace at once the soothing, healing
and secure, saving of inhalation, as the only
cure for Consumption.

"Ask of Raroc" for the Consumptive, to
place it within the reach of all and can so ar-
range it, that the invalid is never required to
leave home, where the hands of affection tend so
much to aid the physician's efforts. I claim for
inhalation a place amongst those priceless gifts,
that NATURE and Art have given us, that our
days may be long in the land; a method not only
rational but simple, safe and efficacious—

There is no life, there is no assurance of hope for
the most seemingly hopeless cases, throughout
all the stages of this insidious disease, the won-
derful and beneficent effects of the statement
are apparent. In cases also of

BRONCHITIS, ASTHMA, &c.
the inhaling of powders and vapors has been
eminently successful, and to those suffering under
any of the above named complaints, I can guar-
antee speedy and certain relief. I have the
pleasure of referring to TWO HUNDRED AND
SEVEN names, residence of New York and
neighborhood, who have been restored to vig-
orous health. About one-third of the above
number, according to their parent's own state-
ments, were considered hopeless cases.

The inhaling method is so soothing, safe, and
speedy, and consists in the administration of
medicines in such a manner that they are con-
veyed into the lungs in the form of vapor, and
produce their action at the seat of the disease—
its practical success is destined to revolutionize
the opinions of the medical world.

**AND ESTABLISH THE CURABIL-
ITY OF CONSUMPTION.**
Applicants will please state if they have ever
been afflicted with the Lungs, if they have lost flesh,
have a cough, night sweats and fever turns—
What and how much they expectorate, what the
condition of their stomach and bowels. The necessary
medicines, Apparatus, &c., will be forwarded
to any part.

TERMS—Five Dollars, consultation fee. Bal-
ance of the fee payable only when the patient
reports himself convalescent.

Recommendation of Physicians.
We the undersigned, practitioners in medi-
cine, cheerfully and heartily recommend Dr.
Rose's method of treating diseases of the Lungs
and Throat, as the BEST and MOST EFFECTU-
AL EVER INTRODUCED INTO MEDICAL PRACTICE—

Our convictions are based upon having several
of our own patients, confirmed consumptives,
restored to vigorous health, after a few months
treatment by Dr. Rose. In the above named
diseases, the application of MEDICATED VAPORS,
inhalation directly into the Lungs, may be justly
considered as a great boon to suffering humanity,
rendering consumption a PERFECTLY CURABLE
DISEASE.

Dr. Rose deserves well of his profession for his
unwearied labors in bringing this healing method
to such a degree of perfection.

JOHN ST. J. F. ROSE,
381 Broadway New York.

Dr. Rose's treatise on consumption—
Price one dollar. Address
JOHN ST. J. F. ROSE,
381 Broadway New York.

THE New Postage law requires that
all letters be PRE-PAID, my correspondence
being extensive, applicants to ensure re-
plies must inclose postage.

Money letters must be registered
by the Post Master, such letters only being
admissible.
Dec. 18, 1855.—Gm

RINGLET! RINGLET! RINGLET!
CURL YOUR HAIR.
AFTER MUCH STUDY, TOIL AND EX-
pense, I have discovered the secret of mak-
ing the most straight, smooth and coarse look-
ing hair, either to CURL or WAVE, at the op-
tion of the individual, in the most graceful man-
ner, for life; thus enabling persons greatly to
improve their appearance. Only three applica-
tions of my preparation are necessary. The
preparation, which is not only perfectly harm-
less to the skin and hair, but renders the latter
permanently silky and glossy, does not cost
more than 75¢ per bottle, and the materials of which
it is composed can be bought anywhere. I will
send the RECEIPT for making it, to any person
who forwards me ONE DOLLAR, by mail, pre-
paid. Address

PROFESSOR H. N. ROWLAND,
Practical and Analytical Chemist, Phila. Pa.
THE RECEIPT and one bottle of the
PREPARATION, sent free by mail, for \$2.
dec 4—3m

FALL GOODS.
JUST RECEIVED AT THE
"BEE HIVE."

A SPLENDID assortment of Fall and Winter
Goods of all kinds and styles, which will
be sold at lower prices than ever heard of, con-
sisting in part as follows:

SILKS.
Black and colored SILKS in Stripes and
Figured;
Watered, Plain and Brocaded, of all the latest
styles and patterns,
Shawls de Laines, Canton Cloths and Bomba-
zines;
Alpacas, Lustres and Plaids of every descrip-
tion,
Merinos, Lyons' Cloths and Carbons;
French Cloths and Cassimeres of every descrip-
tion and color.

CLOAKS.
Of the very newest patterns and less than the
cost of material.
FLANNELS, BLANKETS, &c.
A good assortment of Domestic Goods gener-
ally,
Black and Colored Kid Gloves of a very superior
quality, and
EMBROIDERIES.
A beautiful assortment of the above goods in
store.

Collars, Sleeves, Under Handkerchiefs, (Black
and White),
Bands, Cambric and Muslin Embroidered Hand-
kerchiefs, all prices.
SHAWLS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.
Plaid, French Thibet Cashmere, &c.
Crape Shawls at a cheap bargain.
The Bee Hive is as cheap as any.

JAMES SMITH,
207 No. 33 Main street, Norfolk, Va.

SINGER'S SEWING MACHINES.

THESE machines have long sustained
the highest reputation in the United
States. THE FIRST PRIZE—A GOLD MEDAL
—has recently been awarded to them at the
Exposition at the Palace of Industry in
Paris, and thus they have the World's ver-
dict of superiority.

Great improvements have just been added,
so that they run without noise, with
ease to the operator at double the ordinary
speed, so that

TWICE AS MUCH CAN BE DONE IN A DAY.
The greatest clothing and shoe manu-
facturing establishments in the country use
these machines exclusively. They are
competent to perform every sort of work
in the most perfect style.

As there are very great numbers of inferior
or entirely worthless sewing machines,
of the Lerow & Blodgett, Avery, Wilson,
Grover & Baker, and other patents, which
have been sold, but cannot be used to any
advantage, we hereby offer to receive all
such machines, and also unimproved ones
of our own manufacture, in exchange for
NEW AND LATEST IMPROVED MACH

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

Fellow citizens of the Senate

and of the House of Representatives:

The constitution of the United States provides that Congress shall assemble annually on the first Monday of December, and it has been usual for the President to make no communication of a public character to the Senate and House of Representatives until advised of their readiness to receive it. I have deferred to this usage until the close of the first month of the session, but my convictions of duty will not permit me longer to postpone the discharge of the obligation enjoined by the constitution upon the President to give to the Congress information of the state of the Union, and recommend to their consideration such measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient.

It is matter of congratulation that the Republic is tranquilly advancing in a career of prosperity and peace.

FOREIGN RELATIONS.—CENTRAL AMERICA. While relations of amity continue to exist between the United States and all foreign powers, with some of them grave questions are depending, which may require the consideration of Congress.

Of such questions, the most important is that, which has arisen out of the negotiations with Great Britain in reference to Central America.

By the convention concluded between the two governments on the 19th of April, 1850, both parties covenanted, that "neither will ever" occupy, or fortify, or colonize, or assume or exercise any dominion over, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, the Mosquito coast, or any part of Central America."

It was the undoubted understanding of the United States, in making this treaty, that all the present States of the former republic of Central America, and the entire territory of each, would thenceforth enjoy complete independence, and that both contracting parties engaged equally, and to the same extent, for the present and for the future, that if either then had any claim of right in Central America, such claim, and all occupation or authority under it, were unreservedly relinquished by the stipulations of the convention; and that no dominion was thereafter to be exercised or assumed in any part of Central America, by Great Britain or the United States.

This government consented to restrictions in regard to a region of country, wherein we had specific and peculiar interests, only upon the conviction that the like restrictions were in the same sense obligatory on Great Britain. But for this understanding of the force and effect of the convention, it would never have been concluded.

So clear was this understanding on the part of the United States, that, in correspondence contemporaneous with the ratification of the convention, it was distinctly expressed, that the mutual covenants of non-occupation were not intended to apply to the British establishment at the Balise. This qualification is to be ascribed to the fact, that, in virtue of successive treaties with previous sovereigns of the country, Great Britain had obtained a concession of the right to cut mahogany or dye-woods at the Balise, but with positive exclusion of all domain or sovereignty; and thus it confirms the natural construction and understood import of the treaty as to all the rest of the region to which the stipulations applied.

It, however, became apparent, at an early day after entering upon the discharge of my present functions, that Great Britain still continued in the exercise or assertion of large authority in all that part of Central America commonly called the Mosquito coast, and covering the entire length of the State of Nicaragua, and a part of Costa Rica; that she regarded the Balise as her absolute domain, and was gradually extending its limits at the expense of the State of Honduras; and that she had formally organized a considerable insular group known as the Bay Islands, and belonging, in right, to that State.

All these acts or pretensions of Great Britain, being contrary to the rights of the States of Central America, and to the main tenor of her stipulations with the United States, as understood by this government, have been made the subject of negotiation through the American Minister at London. I transmit herewith the instructions to him on the subject, and the correspondence between him and the British Secretary for Foreign Affairs, by which you will perceive that the two governments differ widely and irreconcilably as to the construction of the convention, and its effect on their respective relations to Central America.

Great Britain so construes the convention, as to maintain unchanged all her previous pretensions over the Mosquito coast, and in different parts of Central America. These pretensions, as to the Mosquito coast, are founded on the assumption of political relation between Great Britain and that coast, entered into at a time when the whole country was a colonial possession of Spain. It cannot be successfully controverted, that, by the public law of Europe and America, no possible act of our Indians or their predecessors could confer on Great Britain any political rights.

Great Britain does not allege the assent of Spain as the origin of her claims on the Mosquito coast. She has, on the contrary, by repeated and successive treaties, renounced and relinquished all pretensions of her own, and recognized the full and sovereign rights of Spain in the most unequivocal terms. Yet these pretensions, without solid foundation in the beginning, and thus repeatedly abjured, were, at a recent period, revived by Great Britain against the Central American States, the legitimate successors to all the ancient jurisdiction of Spain in that region. They were first applied only to a defined part of the coast of Nicaragua, afterwards to the whole of its Atlantic coast, and lastly to a part of the eastern coast of Nicaragua and Costa Rica, the interference of Great Britain, though exerted at one time in the form of military occupation of the port of San Juan del Norte, then in the peaceful possession of the appropriate authorities of the Central American States, is now presented by her as the rightful exercise of a protectorship over the Mosquito tribe of Indians.

But the establishment at the Balise, now reaching far beyond its treaty limits into the State of Honduras, and that of the Bay Islands, appropriating of right to the

same State, are as distinctly colonial governments as those of Jamaica or Canada, and therefore contrary to the very letter as well as to the spirit of the convention with the United States, as it was at the time of ratification, and now is, understood by this government.

The interpretation which the British government, thus in assertion and act, persists in ascribing to the convention, entirely changes its character. While it holds us to all our obligations, it in a great measure releases Great Britain from those, which constituted the consideration of this government for entering into the convention. It is impossible, in my judgment, for the United States to acquiesce in such a construction of the respective relations of the two governments to Central America.

To a renewed call by this government upon Great Britain, to abide by, and carry into effect, the stipulations of the convention according to its obvious import, by withdrawing from the possession or colonization of portions of the Central American States of Honduras, Nicaragua, and Costa Rica, the British government has lengthily replied, affirming that the operation of the treaty is prospective only, and did not require Great Britain to abandon or contract any possessions held by her in Central America at the date of its conclusion.

This reply substitutes a partial issue, in the place of the general one presented by the United States. The British government passes over the question of the rights of Great Britain, real or supposed, in Central America, and assumes that she had such rights at the date of the treaty, and that those rights comprehended the protectorship of the Mosquito Indians, the extended jurisdiction and limits of the Balise, and the colony of the Bay Islands, and thereupon proceeds by implication to infer, that, if the stipulations of the treaty be merely future in effect, Great Britain may still continue to hold the contested portions of Central America. The United States cannot admit either the inference or the premises. We steadfastly deny, that, at the date of the treaty, Great Britain had any possessions there, other than the limited and peculiar establishment at the Balise, and maintain that, if she had any, they were surrendered by the convention.

This government, recognizing the obligations of the treaty, has of course desired to see it executed in good faith by both parties, and in the discussion, therefore, has not looked to rights, which we might assert, independently of the treaty, in consideration of our geographical position and other circumstances, which create for us relations to the Central American States, different from those of any government of Europe.

The British government, in its last communication, although well knowing the views of the United States, still declares that it sees no reason why a conciliatory spirit may not enable the two governments to overcome all obstacles to a satisfactory adjustment of the subject.

Assured of the correctness of the construction of the treaty constantly adhered to by this government, and resolved to insist on the rights of the United States, yet actuated also by the same desire, which is avowed by the British government, to remove all causes of serious misunderstanding between two nations associated by so many ties of interest and kindred, it has appeared to me proper not to consider an amicable solution of the controversy hopeless.

There is, however, reason to apprehend, that, with Great Britain in the actual occupation of the disputed territories, and the treaty therefore practically null, so far as regards our rights, this international difficulty cannot long remain undetermined, without involving in serious danger the friendly relations, which it is the interest as well as the duty of both countries to cherish and preserve. It will afford me sincere gratification, if future efforts shall result in the success, anticipated heretofore with more confidence than the aspect of the case permits me now to entertain.

RECRUITMENT. One other subject of discussion between the United States and Great Britain has grown out of the attempt, which the exigencies of the war in which she is engaged with Russia induced her to make, to draw recruits from the United States.

It is the traditional and settled policy of the United States to maintain impartial neutrality during the wars, which from time to time occur among the great powers of the world. Performing all the duties of neutrality towards the respective belligerent states, we may reasonably expect them not to interfere with our lawful enjoyment of its benefits. Notwithstanding the existence of such hostilities, our citizens retain the individual right to continue all their accustomed pursuits, by land or by sea, at home or abroad, subject only to such restrictions in this relation, as the laws of war, the usage of nations, or special treaties, may impose; and it is our sovereign right that our territory and jurisdiction shall not be invaded by either of the belligerent parties, for the transit of their armies, the operations of their fleets, the levy of troops for their service, the fitting out of cruisers or against either, or any other act or incident of war. And these undeniable rights of neutrality, individual and national, the United States will under no circumstances surrender.

In pursuance of this policy, the laws of the United States do not forbid their citizens to sell to either of the belligerent powers articles, contraband of war, or to take munitions of war or soldiers on board their private ships for transportation; and although, in so doing, the individual citizen exposes his property or person to some of the hazards of war, his acts do not involve any breach of national neutrality, nor of themselves implicate the government. Thus, during the progress of the present war in Europe, our citizens have, without national responsibility therefore, sold gunpowder and arms to all buyers, regardless of the destination of those articles. Our merchantmen have been, and still continue to be, largely employed by Great Britain and by France, in transporting troops, provisions, and munitions of war to the principal seat of military operations, and in bringing home their sick and wounded soldiers; but such use of our mercantile marine is not interfered with by the international, or by our municipal law, and therefore does not compromise our neutral relations with Russia.

But our municipal law, in accordance with the law of nations, peremptorily forbids, to fit out, within the limits of the United States, a vessel to commit hostilities against any state with which the United States are at peace, or to increase the force

of any foreign armed vessel intended for such hostilities against a friendly state.

Whatever concern may have been felt by either of the belligerent powers lest private armed cruisers, or other vessels, in the service of one, might be fitted out in the ports of this country to depredate on the property of the other, all such fears have proved to be utterly groundless. Our citizens have been withheld from any such act or purpose by good faith, and by respect for the law.

While the laws of the Union are thus peremptory in their prohibition of the equipment or armament of belligerent cruisers in our ports, they provide not less absolutely that no person shall, within the territory or jurisdiction of the United States, enlist or enter himself, or hire or retain another person to enlist or enter himself, or to go beyond the limits or jurisdiction of the United States with intent to be enlisted or entered, in the service of any foreign state, either as a soldier, or as a marine or seaman on board of any vessel of war, letter of marque, or privateer. And these enactments are also in strict conformity with the law of nations, which declares, that no state has the right to raise troops for land or sea service in another state without its consent, and that, whether forbidden by the municipal law or not, the very attempt to do it, without such consent, is an attack on the national sovereignty.

Such being the public rights and the municipal law of the United States, so solicitude on the subject was entertained by this government, when, a year since, the British Parliament passed an act to provide for the enlistment of foreigners in the military service of Great Britain. Nothing on the face of the act, or its public history, indicated that the British government proposed to attempt recruitment in the United States; nor did it ever give intimation of such intention to this government. It was matter of surprise, therefore, to find, subsequently, that the engagement of persons within the United States to proceed to Halifax, in the British province of Nova Scotia, and there enlist in the service of Great Britain, was going on extensively, with little or no disguise. Ordinary legal steps were immediately taken to arrest and punish parties concerned, and so put an end to acts infringing the municipal law and derogatory to our sovereignty. Meanwhile suitable representations on the subject were addressed to the British government.

Thereupon it became known, by the admission of the British government itself, that the attempt to draw recruits from this country originated with it, or at least had its approval and sanction; but it also appeared that the public agents engaged in it had "stringent instructions" not to violate the municipal law of the United States.

It is difficult to understand how it should have been supposed that troops could be raised here by Great Britain, without violation of the municipal law. The unmistakable object of the law was to prevent every such act, which, if performed, must be either in violation of the law, or in studied evasion of it; and, in either alternative, the act done would be alike injurious to the sovereignty of the United States.

In the meantime, the matter acquired additional importance, by the recruitments in the United States not being discontinued, and the disclosure of the fact that they were prosecuted upon a systematic plan devised by official authority; that recruiting rendezvous had been opened in our principal cities, and depots for the reception of recruits established on our frontier; and the whole business conducted under the supervision and by the regular co-operation of British officers, civil and military, some in the North American provinces, and some in the United States. The complexity of those officers in an undertaking, which could only be accomplished by defying our laws, throwing suspicion over our attitude of neutrality, and disregarding our territorial rights, is conclusively proved by the evidence elicited on the trial of such of their agents as have been apprehended and convicted. Some of the officers thus implicated are of high official position, and many of them beyond our jurisdiction, so that legal proceedings could not reach the source of the mischief.

These considerations, and the fact, that the cause of complaint was not a mere casual occurrence, but a deliberate design, entered upon with full knowledge of our laws and national policy, and conducted by responsible public functionaries, impelled me to present the case to the British government, in order to secure, not only a cessation of the wrong, but its reparation. The subject is still under discussion, the result of which will be communicated to you in due time.

I repeat the recommendation submitted to the last Congress, that provision be made for the appointment of a commissioner, in connection with Great Britain, to survey and establish the boundary line, which divides the Territory of Washington from the continuous British possessions. By reason of the extent and importance of the country in dispute, there has been imminent danger of collision between the subjects of Great Britain and the citizens of the United States, including their respective authorities in that quarter. The prospect of a speedy arrangement has contributed hitherto to induce on both sides forbearance to assert by force what each claims as a right. Continuance of delay on the part of the two governments to act in the matter will increase the dangers and difficulties of the controversy.

Misunderstanding exists as to the extent, character, and value of the possessory rights of the Hudson's Bay Company and the property of the Puget's Sound Agricultural Company, reserved in our treaty with Great Britain relative to the Territory of Oregon. I have reason to believe that a cessation of the rights of both companies to the United States, which would be the readiest means of terminating all questions, can be obtained on reasonable terms; and, with a view to this end, I present the subject to the attention of Congress.

The colony of Newfoundland, having evaded the laws required by the treaty of the 5th of June, 1854, is now placed on the same footing, in respect to commercial intercourse with the United States, as the other British North American provinces.

The commission, which that treaty contemplated, for determining the rights of fishery in rivers and mouths of rivers on the coasts of the United States and the British North American provinces, has been organized and has commenced its labors; to complete which there is needed further appropriations for the service of another season.

SOUND DUES. In pursuance of the authority, conferred

by a resolution of the Senate, the United States passed on the 3d of March last, notice was given to Denmark, on the 14th day of April, of the intention of this government to avail itself of the stipulation of the sublimiting convention of friendship, commerce, and navigation between that Kingdom and the United States, whereby either party might, after ten years, terminate the same at the expiration of one year from the date of notice for that purpose.

The considerations, which led me to call the attention of Congress to that convention, and induced the Senate to adopt the resolution referred to, still continue in full force. The convention contains an article, which, although it does not directly engage the United States to submit to the imposition of tolls on the vessels and cargoes of Americans passing into or from the Baltic sea, during the continuance of the treaty, yet may, by possibility, be construed as implying such submission. The extraction of those tolls not being justified by any principle of international law, it became the right and the duty of the United States to relieve themselves from the implication of engagement on the subject, so as to be perfectly free to act in the premises in such way as their public interests and honor shall demand.

I remain of the opinion that the United States ought not to submit to the payment of the Sound dues, not so much because of their amount, which is a secondary matter, but because it is in effect the recognition of the right of Denmark to treat one of the great maritime highways of nations as a close sea; and the navigation of it as a privilege for which tribute may be imposed upon those who have occasion to use it.

This government, on a former occasion, unlike the present, signalized its determination to maintain the freedom of the seas, and of the great natural channels of navigation. The Barbary States had, for a long time, coerced the payment of tribute from all nations, whose ships frequented the Mediterranean. To the last demand of such payment made by them, the United States, although suffering less by their depredations than many other nations, returned the explicit answer, that we preferred war to tribute, and thus opened the way to the relief of the commerce of the world from an ignominious tax, so long submitted to by the more powerful nations of Europe.

If the manner of payment of the Sound dues differ from that of the tribute formerly conceded to the Barbary States, still their exaction by Denmark has no better foundation in right. Each was, in its origin, nothing but a tax on a common natural right, exacted by those, who were at that time able to obstruct the free and secure enjoyment of it, but who no longer possess that power.

Denmark, while resisting our assertion of the freedom of the Baltic Sound and Belt, has indicated a readiness to make some new arrangement on the subject, and has invited the governments interested, including the United States, to be represented in a convention to assemble for the purpose of receiving and considering a proposition, which she intends to submit, for the capitalization of the Sound dues, and the distribution of the sum to be paid as commutation among the governments, according to the respective proportions of their maritime commerce to and from the Baltic. I have declined in behalf of the United States to accept this invitation, for the most cogent reasons.

One is, that Denmark does not offer to submit to the convention the question of her right to levy the Sound dues. A second is, that, if the convention were allowed to take cognizance of that particular question, still it would not be competent to deal with the great international principle involved which affects the right in other cases of navigation and commercial freedom, as well as that of access to the Baltic. Above all, by the express terms of the proposition it is contemplated, that the consideration of the Sound dues shall be commingled with, and made subordinate to, a matter wholly extraneous, the balance of power among the governments of Europe.

While, however, rejecting this proposition, and insisting on the right of free transit into and from the Baltic, I have expressed to Denmark a willingness, on the part of the United States, to share liberally with other powers in compensating her for any advantages, which commerce shall hereafter derive from expenditures made by her for the improvement and safety of the navigation of the Sound or Belt.

I lay before you, herewith, sundry documents on the subject, in which my views are more fully disclosed. Should not satisfactory arrangement be soon concluded, I shall again call your attention to the subject, with recommendation of such measures as may appear to be required in order to assert and secure the rights of the United States, so far as they are affected by the pretensions of Denmark.

FRANCE. I announce with much gratification, that, since the adjournment of the last Congress, the question, then existing between this government and that of France, respecting the French consul at San Francisco, has been satisfactorily determined, and that the relations of the two governments continue to be of the most friendly nature.

GREECE.

A question, also, which has been pending for several years between the United States and the Kingdom of Greece, growing out of the sequestration, by public authorities of that country, of property belonging to the present American consul at Athens, and which had been the subject of very earnest discussion heretofore, has recently been settled to the satisfaction of the parties interested and of both governments.

SPAIN.

With Spain, peaceful relations are still maintained, and some progress has been made in securing the redress of wrongs complained of by this government. Spain has not only disavowed and disapproved the conduct of the officers, who illegally seized and detained the steamer Black Warrior at Havana, but has also paid the sum claimed as indemnity for the loss thereby inflicted on citizens of the United States.

In consequence of a destructive hurricane, which visited Cuba in 1844, the supreme authority of that island issued a decree, permitting the importation, for the period of six months, of certain building materials and provisions, free of duty, but revoked it when about half the period only had elapsed, to the injury of citizens of the United States, who had proceeded to act on the faith of that decree. The Spanish government refused indemnification to the parties aggrieved until recently, when it was assented to, payment being promised

to be made so soon as the amount due can be ascertained.

Satisfaction claimed for the arrest and search of the steamer El Dorado has not yet been accorded, but there is reason to believe that it will be, and that case, with others, continues to be urged on the attention of the Spanish government. I do not abandon the hope of concluding with Spain some general arrangement, which, if it do not wholly prevent the recurrence of difficulties in Cuba, will render them less frequent, and whenever they shall occur facilitate their more speedy settlement.

MEXICO.

The interposition of this government has been invoked by many of its citizens, on account of injuries done to their persons and property, for which the Mexican republic is responsible. The unhappy situation of that country, for some time past, has not allowed its government to give due consideration to claims of private reparation, and has appeared to call for and justify some forbearance in such matters on the part of this government. But, if the revolutionary movements, which lately occurred in that republic, end in the organization of a stable government, urgent appeals to its justice will then be made, and, it may be hoped, with success, for the redress of all complaints of our citizens.

CENTRAL AMERICA.

In regard to the American republics, which from their proximity and other considerations, have peculiar relations to this government, while it has been my constant aim strictly to observe all the obligations of political friendship and of good neighborhood, obstacles to this have arisen in some of them, from their own insufficient power to check lawless irruptions, which in effect throw most of the task on the United States. Thus it is that the distracted internal condition of the State of Nicaragua has made it incumbent on me to appeal to the good faith of our citizens to abstain from unlawful intervention in its affairs, and to adopt preventive measures to the same end, which, on a similar occasion, had the best results in re-asserting the peace of the Mexican States of Sonora and Lower California.

TREATIES.

Since the last session of Congress a treaty of amity, commerce, and navigation, and for the surrender of fugitive criminals, with the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies; a treaty of friendship, commerce, and navigation with Nicaragua, and a convention of commercial reciprocity with the Hawaiian Kingdom, have been negotiated. The latter kingdom and the State of Nicaragua have also acceded to a declaration, recognizing as international rights the principles contained in the convention between the United States and Russia, of the 22d of July, 1854. These treaties and conventions will be laid before the Senate for ratification.

TREASURY.

The statements made, in my last annual message, respecting the anticipated receipts and expenditures of the Treasury, have been substantially verified.

It appears from the report of the Secretary of the Treasury, that the receipts during the last fiscal year ending June 30, 1855, from all sources, were sixty-five million three hundred and ninety thousand three hundred and thirty-four dollars; and the public expenditures for the same period, exclusive of payments on account of the public debt, amounted to fifty-six million three hundred and sixty-five thousand three hundred and ninety-three dollars. During the same period, the payments made in redemption of the public debt, including interest and premium, amounted to nine million eight hundred and forty-four thousand five hundred and twenty-eight dollars.

The balance in the Treasury at the beginning of the present fiscal year, July 1, 1855, was eighteen million nine hundred and thirty-one thousand nine hundred and seventy-six dollars; the receipts for the first quarter, and the estimated receipts for the remaining three quarters, amount, together, to sixty-seven million nine hundred and eighty-seven thousand seven hundred and thirty-four dollars; thus affording in all, as the available resources of the current fiscal year, the sum of eighty-six million eight hundred and fifty-six thousand seven hundred and ten dollars.

If, to the actual expenditures of the first quarter of the current fiscal year, be added the probable expenditures for the remaining three quarters, as estimated by the Secretary of the Treasury, the sum total will be seventy-one million two hundred and twenty-three thousand eight hundred and forty-six dollars, thereby leaving an estimated balance in the Treasury on July 1, 1856, of fifteen million six hundred and thirty-three thousand eight hundred and sixty-three dollars and forty-one cents.

In the above estimated expenditures of the present fiscal year are included three million dollars to meet the last instalment of the ten millions provided for in the late treaty with Mexico, and seven million seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars appropriated on account of the debt due to Texas, which two sums make an aggregate amount of ten million seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars, and reduce the expenditures, actual or estimated, for ordinary objects of the year, to the sum of sixty million four hundred and seventy-six thousand dollars.

The amount of the public debt, at the commencement of the present fiscal year, was forty million five hundred and eighty-three thousand six hundred and thirty-one dollars, and deduction being made of subsequent payments, the whole public debt of the federal government remaining at this time is less than forty million dollars.

The remnant of her other government stocks, amounting to two hundred and thirty-three thousand dollars, referred to in my last message as outstanding, has since been paid.

I am fully persuaded that it would be difficult to devise a system superior to that, by which the fiscal business of the government is now conducted. Notwithstanding the great number of public agents of collection and disbursement, it is believed that the checks and guards provided, including the requirement of monthly returns, render it scarcely possible for any considerable fraud on the part of those agents, or neglect involving hazard of serious public loss, to escape detection. I renew, however, the recommendation, heretofore made by me, of the enactment of a law declaring it felony on the part of public officers to insert false entries in their books of record or account, or to make false returns, and also requiring on the termination of their service to deliver to their successors all books, records and other objects of a public nature in their custody.

Derived as our public revenue is, in

chief part, from duties on imports, the magnitude of the evidence of the property, not only of our commerce, but of the other great interests upon which that depends.

The principle that all moneys not required for the current expenses of the government should remain for active employment in the hands of the people, and the conspicuous fact that the annual revenue from all sources exceeds, by many millions of dollars, the amount needed for a prudent and economical administration of public affairs, cannot fail to suggest the propriety of an early revision and reduction of the tariff of duties on imports. It is now so generally conceded that the purpose of revenue alone can justify the imposition of duties on imports, that in readjusting the import tables and schedules, which unquestionably require essential modifications, a departure from the principles of the present tariff is not anticipated.

ARMY.

The army, during the past year, has been actively engaged in defending the Indian frontier, the state of the service permitting but few and small garrisons in our permanent fortifications. The additional regiments authorized at the last session of Congress have been recruited and organized, and a large portion of the troops have already been sent to the field. All the duties, which devolve on the military establishment, have been satisfactorily performed, and the dangers and privations incident to the character of the service required of our troops have furnished additional evidence of their courage, zeal, and capacity to meet any requisition, which their country may make upon them. For the details of the military operations, the distribution of the troops, and additional provisions required for the military service, I refer to the report of the Secretary of War and the accompanying documents.

Experience, gathered from events which have transpired since my last annual message, has but served to confirm the opinion then expressed of the propriety of making provision, by a retired list, for disabled officers, and for increased compensation to the officers retained on the list for active duty. All the reasons which existed, when these measures were recommended on former occasions, continue without modification, except so far as circumstances have given to some of them additional force.

The recommendations, heretofore made for a partial reorganization of the army, are also renewed. The thorough elementary education given to those officers, who command their service with the grade of captain, qualifies them, to a considerable extent, to perform the duties of every arm of the service; but to give the highest efficiency to artillery requires the precise and special study of many years; and it is not, therefore, believed to be a feasible plan, in time of peace, a large force of that arm to be actually employed in the duties appertaining to the service of field and siege artillery. The duties of the staff in all its various branches, so far as the movements of troops, and the efficiency of an army in the field would materially depend upon the ability with which those duties are discharged. It is not, as in the case of the artillery, a specialty, but requires, also, an intimate knowledge of the duties of every arm of the line, and it is not doubted that, to complete the education of an officer for either the line or the general staff, it is desirable that he should have served in both. With this view, it was recommended on a former occasion that the duties of the staff should be mainly performed by details from the line; and, with conviction of the advantages which would result from such a change, it is again presented for the consideration of Congress.

NAVY.

The report of the Secretary of the Navy, herewith submitted, exhibits in full the naval operations of the past year, together with the present condition of the service, and it makes suggestions of further legislation, to which your attention is invited.

The construction of the six steam frigates, for which appropriations were made by the last Congress, has proceeded in the most satisfactory manner, and with such expedition, as to warrant the belief that they will be ready for service early in the coming spring. Important as this addition to our naval force is, it still remains inadequate to the contingent exigencies of the protection of the extensive sea coast and vast commercial interests of the United States. In view of this fact, and of the acknowledged wisdom of the policy of a gradual and systematic increase of the navy, an appropriation is recommended for the construction of six steam sloops-of-war.

In regard to the steps taken in execution of the act of Congress to promote the efficiency of the navy, it is unnecessary for me to say more than to express entire concurrence in the observations on that subject presented by the Secretary in his report.

POST OFFICE.

It will be perceived, by the report of the Postmaster General, that the gross expenditure of the department of the last fiscal year was nine million nine hundred and sixty-eight thousand three hundred and forty dollars, and the gross receipts seven million three hundred and forty-two thousand one hundred and thirty-six dollars, making an excess of expenditure over receipts of two million six hundred and twenty-six thousand two hundred and six dollars; and that the cost of mail transportation during that year was six hundred and seventy-four thousand nine hundred and fifty-two dollars greater than the previous year. Much of the heavy expenditures, to which the Treasury is thus subjected, is to be ascribed to the large quantity of printed matter conveyed by the mails, either franked, or liable to no postage by law, or to very low rates of postage compared with that charged on letters; and to the great cost of mail service on railroads and by ocean steamers. The suggestions of the Postmaster General on the subject deserve the consideration of Congress.

INTERIOR.

The report of the Secretary of the Interior will engage your attention, as well for useful suggestions it contains, as for the interest and importance of the subjects to which they refer.

The aggregate amount of public land sold during the last fiscal year, located with military scrip or land warrants, taken up under grants for roads, and selected as swamp lands by States, is twenty-four million five hundred and fifty-seven thousand four hundred and nine acres; of which the portion sold was fifteen million seven hundred and twenty-nine thousand five hundred and eighty-five acres, yielding in receipts the sum of eleven million four hundred and eighty-five thousand three hundred and eighty dollars. In the same period, eight million seven hundred and fifty-five thousand eight hundred and fifty acres have been surveyed; in consideration of the quantity already subject to entry, no additional tracts have been brought into market.

The peculiar relation of the general government to the District of Columbia renders it proper to commend to your care not only its material, but also its moral improvement, including education, more especially those parts of the district outside of the cities of Washington and Georgetown.

The commissioners appointed to revise and codify the laws of the District have made such progress in the performance of their task, as to insure its completion in the time prescribed by the act of Congress.

Information has recently been received that the peace of the settlements in the Territories of Oregon and Washington, disturbed by hostilities on the part of Indians, with indications of extensive combinations of a hostile character among tribes in that quarter, the most serious detriment foreign interests existing in those Territories, to which your attention has already been especially invited, is believed, will restore quiet, and afford protection to our citizens.

In the Territory of Kansas, there have been acts prejudicial to good order, but yet none have occurred under circumstances to justify the interposition of the Executive. That could only be in case of obstruction to federal law, or of organized resistance to territorial law, assuming a character of insurrection, which, should occur, it would be my duty, promptly to overcome and suppress. I cheerfully hope, however, that the occurrence of any such untoward event will be prevented by the sound sense of the people of that Territory, who, by its organic law, possess the right to determine their own domestic institutions, are entitled to the protection of the federal government, and the exercise of that right, and must be protected in the enjoyment of it, without interference on the part of the citizens of other States.

The southern boundary line of this Territory has never been surveyed and established. The rapidly-extending settlements in that region, and the fact that the route between Independence, in the State of Missouri, and New Mexico, is one of the most important of the country, suggest the propriety of such a survey, and the fact that the route between Independence, in the State of Missouri, and New Mexico, is one of the most important of the country, suggest the propriety of such a survey, and the fact that the route between Independence, in the State of Missouri, and New Mexico, is one of the most important of the country, suggest the propriety of such a survey.

I have thus passed in review the general state of the Union, including such particular concerns of the federal government as whether of domestic or foreign origin, as it appeared to me desirable and useful to bring it to the special notice of Congress. Unlike the great States of Europe and Asia, and many of those of America, the United States are warring their strength neither in foreign war nor domestic revolution. Whatever of discontent or public faction exists, is attributable to the feelings of human nature, or to the influence of political agitation, as occasioned by the generation of inevitable evils, or to the social improvement, or to the influence of grievances, having but remote connection with any of the constitutional functions of the federal government, whatever extent these questions, whenever menacing to the stability of the constitution, or the integrity of the Union, and no further, they demand the attention of the Executive, and require to be presented by him to Congress.

Before the Thirteen Colonies became confederated into independent States, they were associated only by community of political origin, by geographical position, and by the natural tie of common descent on Great Britain. When they were sundried, they severally assumed powers and rights of absolute self-government. The municipal and social institutions of each, its laws of property and personal relation, even its political organization, were such only as each one chose to establish, wholly without interference from any other. In the language of the Declaration of Independence, each State had "full power to levy war, conclude peace, contract alliances, establish commerce, and to do all other acts and things, which independent States may do."

The several colonies differed in climate, in soil, in natural productions, in religion, in systems of education, in language, and in the forms of political organization; and they continued to differ in these respects when they voluntarily associated themselves as States to carry on the work of the revolution.

The object of that war was to disentangle the United Colonies from foreign rule, and to establish a confederation, and to secure to them permanently from the mother country the political result was the declaration of a federal republic of the white men of the colonies, constituted by them, in distinct, and reciprocal dependent, State governments. The subject races, whether Indian or African, the wise and brave statesmen of the day, being engaged in no external scheme of social change, left them to their posterity from the anarchy of ever-recurring civil wars, which have prevailed in other revolutionized European colonies of America.

When the confederated States found it convenient to modify the conditions of their association, by giving to the general government direct access, in some respect, to the people of the States, instead of proceeding to action on the States as sovereigns, they were, to delegate to the execution of specific purposes, or to retain as much as possible of the independent powers of the individual States. For objects of common defense and safety, they intrusted to the general government certain carefully-defined functions, leaving all others as the undelimited property of the separate independent sovereigns. Such is the constitutional theory of government, the practical observation of which has carried us, and we alone, through modern republics, through nearly two generations of time without the shedding of blood shed in civil war, to freedom and concert of action, it enabled us to contend successfully on the

[illegible]

pletely within their jurisdiction; they engage in the offensive and hopeless undertaking of reforming the domestic institutions of other States wholly beyond their control and authority. In the vain pursuit of ends, by them entirely unattainable, and which they may not legally attempt to compass, they peril the very existence of the constitution, and all the countless benefits which it has conferred. While the people of the southern States confine their attention to their own affairs, not presuming effensively to interfere with the social institutions of the northern States, too many of the inhabitants of the latter are permanently organized in associations to inflict injury on the former, by wrongful acts, which would be cause of war as between foreign powers, and only fail to be such in our system, because perpetrated under cover of the Union.

It is impossible to present this subject as truth and the occasion require, without noticing the reiterated, but groundless, allegation, that the South has persistently asserted claims and obtained advantages in the practical administration of the general government to the prejudice of the North, and in which the latter has acquiesced. That is, the States, which either promote or tolerate attacks on the rights of persons and of property in other States, to disguise their own injustices, pretend or imagine, and constantly aver, that they, whose constitutional rights are thus systematically assailed, are themselves the aggressors. At the present time, this imputed aggression, resting, as it does, only in the vague, declamatory charges of political agitators, resolves itself into misapprehension, or misinterpretation of the principles and facts of the political organization of the new Territories of the United States.

What is the voice of history? When the ordinance, which provided for the government of the territory northwest of the river Ohio, and for its eventual subdivision into new States, was adopted in the Congress of the confederation it is not to be supposed that the question of future relative power as between the States which retained, and those which did not retain, a numerous colored population, escaped notice, or failed to be considered. And yet the conclusion of that vast territory to the interests and opinions of the northern States, a territory now the seat of five among the largest members of the Union, was, in great measure, the act of the State of Virginia and of the South.

When Louisiana was acquired by the United States, it was an acquisition not less to the North than to the South; for wide it was important to the country at the mouth of the river Mississippi, above it, so also, it was even more important to the whole Union to have that empire; and although the new province, by reason of its imperfect settlement, was mainly regarded as on the Gulf of Mexico, yet, in fact, it extended to the opposite boundaries of the United States, with its greater breadth above than below, and was in territory as, in everything else, equally at least an accession to the northern States. It is mere delusion and prejudice, therefore, to speak of Louisiana as acquisition in the special interest of the South.

The patriotic and just men who participated in that act, were induced by motives far above all sectional jealousies. It was in truth the great event, which completing for us the possession of the valley of the Mississippi, with commercial access to the Gulf of Mexico, imparted unity and strength to the whole confederation, and attached together by indissoluble ties the East and the West, as well as the North and South.

As to Florida, that was but the transfer by Spain to the United States of territory on the east side of the river Mississippi, in exchange for large territory on the west side of that river, as the entire diplomatic history of the transaction serves to demonstrate. Moreover, it was an acquisition demanded by the commercial interests and the security of the whole Union.

In the meantime, the people of the United States had grown up to a proper consciousness of their strength, and in a brief contest with France, and in a second serious war, with Great Britain, they had shaken off all which remained of undue reverence for Europe, and emerged from the atmosphere of those transatlantic influences which surrounded the infant Republic, and had begun to turn their attention to the full and systematic development of the internal resources of the Union.

Among the evanescent controversies of that period, the most conspicuous was the question of regulation by Congress of the social condition of the future States to be founded in the territory of Louisiana.

The ordinance for the government of the territory northwest of the river Ohio had contained a provision, which prohibited the use of servile labor therein, subject to the condition of the extradition of fugitives from service due in any other part of the United States. Subsequently to the adoption of the constitution, this provision ceased to remain as a law; for its operation as such was absolutely superseded by the constitution. But the recollection of the fact excited the zeal of social propaganda in some sections of the confederation, and, when a second State, that of Missouri, came to be formed in the territory of Louisiana, proposition was made to extend to the latter territory the restriction originally applied to the country situated between the rivers Ohio and Mississippi.

Most questionable as was this proposition in all its constitutional relations, nevertheless it received the sanction of Congress, with some slight modifications of line, to save the existing rights of the intended new State. It was reluctantly acquiesced in by southern States as a sacrifice to the cause of peace and of the Union, not only of the

rights stipulated by the treaty of Louisiana. But of the principle of equality among the States guaranteed by the constitution. It was received by the northern States with angry and resentful condemnation and complaint because it did not concede all which they had exactly demanded. Having passed through the forms of legislation, it took its place in the statute book, standing open to repeal, like any other act of doubtful constitutionality, subject to be pronounced null and void by the courts of law, and possessing no possible efficacy to control the rights of the States, which might thereafter be organized out of any part of the original territory of Louisiana.

In all this, if any aggression there were, any innovation upon pre-existing rights, to which portion of the Union are they justly chargeable?

This controversy passed away with the occasion, nothing surviving it save, the dormant letter of the statute.

But, long afterwards, when, by the proposed accession of the Republic of Texas, the United States were to take their next step in territorial greatness, a similar contingency occurred, and became the occasion for systematized attempts to intervene in the domestic affairs of one section of the Union, in defiance of their rights as States, and of the stipulations of the constitution. These attempts assumed a practical direction, in the shape of persevering endeavors, by some of the representatives, in both houses of Congress, to deprive the southern States of the supposed benefit of the provisions of the act authorizing the organization of the State of Missouri.

But the good sense of the people, and vital force of the constitution, triumphed over sectional prejudice, and the political errors of the day, and the State of Texas returned to the Union as she was with social institutions which her people had chosen for themselves, and with express agreement by the re-annexing act, that she should be susceptible of division into a plurality of States.

Whatever advantage the interests of the Southern States, as such, gained by this were far inferior in results, as they unfolded in progress of time, to those which sprang from previous concessions made by the South.

To every thoughtful friend of the Union—to the true lovers of their country—to all who longed and labored for the full success of this great experiment of republican institutions—it was cause of gratification that such an opportunity had occurred to illustrate our advancing power on this continent, and to furnish to the world additional assurance of the strength and stability of the constitution. Who would wish to see Florida still a European colony? Who would reject to had Texas as a lone star, instead of one in the galaxy of States? Who does not appreciate the incalculable benefits of the acquisition of Louisiana? And yet narrow views and sectional purposes would inevitably have excluded them all from the Union.

But another struggle on the same point ensued, when our victorious arms, returned from Mexico, and it devolved on Congress to provide for the territories acquired by the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo. The great relations of the subject had now become distinct and clear to the perception of the public mind, which appreciated the evils of sectional controversy upon the question of the admission of the new States. In that crisis intense self-culture pervaded the nation. But the patriotic impulses of the popular heart, guided by the advisory advice of the Father of his Country, rose superior to all the difficulties of the incorporation of a new empire into the Union. In the councils of Congress there was manifested extreme antagonism of opinion and action between some representatives, who sought by the abusive and unconstitutional employment of the legislative powers of the government to interfere in the condition of the incipient States, and to impose their own social theories upon the latter; and other representatives, who repelled the interposition of the general government in this respect, and maintained the self-constituting rights of the States. In truth, the thing attempted was, in form alone, action of the general government, while in reality it was the endeavor, by abuse of legislative power, to force the ideas of internal policy, entertained in particular States, upon allied independent States. Once more the constitution and the Union triumphed signally. The new Territories were organized without restrictions on the disputed point, and were thus left to judge in that particular for themselves, and the sense of constitutional faith proved vigorous enough in Congress not only to accomplish this primary object, but also the incidental and hardly less important one, of so amending the provisions of the statute for the extradition of fugitives from service, as to place that public duty under the safe-guard of the general government, and thus relieve it from obstacles raised up by the legislation of some of the States.

Vain declamation regarding the provisions of law for the extradition of fugitives from service, with occasional episodes of frontier effort to obstruct their execution by riot and murder, continued, for a brief time, to agitate certain localities. But the true principle, of leaving each State and Territory to regulate its own sense of right and expediency, had acquired fast hold of the public judgment, to such a degree, that, by common consent, it was observed in the organization of the Territory of Washington.

When, more recently, it became requisite to organize the Territories of Nebraska and Kansas, it was the natural and legitimate, if not the inevitable, consequence of previous events and legislation, that the same great and sound principle, which had already been applied to Utah and New Mexico, should be applied to them;—that they should stand exempt from the restrictions pro-

acted in theft relative to the State of Missouri.

These restrictions were, in the estimation of many thoughtful men, null from the beginning, unauthorized by the constitution, contrary to the treaty stipulations for the cession of Louisiana, and inconsistent with the equality of the States.

They had been stripped of all moral authority, by persistent efforts to procure their indirect repeal through contradictory enactments. They had been practically abrogated by the legislation attending the organization of Utah, New Mexico, and Washington. If any vitality remained in them, it would have been taken away in effect, by the new territorial acts, in the form originally proposed to the Senate at the first session of the last Congress. It was manifest and ingenious, as well as just, to do this directly and plainly; and thus revive the statute-book of an act, which might be of possible future injury, but of no possible future benefit; and the measure of its repeal was the final consummation and complete recognition of the principle, that no portion of the United States shall under take, through assumption of the powers of the general government, to dictate the social institutions of any other portion.

The scope and effect of the language of repeal were not left in doubt. It was declared, in terms, to be 'the true intent and meaning of this act not to legislate slavery into any Territory or State, nor to exclude it therefrom, but to leave the people thereof perfectly free to regulate their domestic institutions in their own way, subject only to the constitution of the United States.'

The measure could not be withstood upon its merits alone. It was attacked with violence, on the false or delusive pretext, that it constituted a breach of faith. Never was objection more utterly destitute of substantial justification. When, before, was it imagined by sensible men, that a regulative or declarative statute, whether enacted ten or forty years ago, is irrevocable,—but an act of Congress is above the constitution? If, indeed, there were in the facts any cause to impute bad faith, it would attach to those only, who have never ceased, from the time of the enactment of the restrictive provision to the present day, to denounce and to condemn it; who have constantly refused to comply with it by needful supplemental legislation; who have spared no exertion to deprive it of moral force; who have themselves again attempted its repeal by the enactment of incompatible provisions; and who, by the inevitable reactionary effect of their own violence on the subject, awakened the country to perception of the true constitutional principle, of leaving the matter involved to the discretion of the people of the respective existing or incipient States.

It is not pretended that this principle, or any other, precludes the possibility of evils in practice, disturbed as political action is liable to be by human passions. No form of government is exempt from inconveniences; but in this case they are the result of the abuse, and not of the legitimate exercise, of the powers reserved or conferred in the organization of a Territory. They are not to be charged to the great principle of popular sovereignty on the contrary, they disappear before the intelligence and patriotism of the people, exerting through the ballot-box their peaceful and silent but irresistible power.

If the friends of the constitution are to have another struggle, its enemies could not present a more acceptable issue, than that of a State, whose constitution clearly embraces 'a republican form of government,' being excluded from the Union because its domestic institutions may not in all respects comport with the ideas of what is wise and expedient entertained in some other State. Fresh from groundless imputations of breach of faith against others, men will commence the agitation of this new question with indubitable violation of an express compact between the independent sovereign powers of the United States and of the republic of Texas, as well as of the older and equally solemn compacts, which assure the equality of all the States.

But, deplorable as would be such a violation of compact in itself, and in all its direct consequences, that is the very least of the evils involved. When sectional agitators shall have succeeded in forcing on this issue, can their pretensions fail to be met by counter pretensions? Will not different States be compelled respectively to meet extremes with extremes? And, if either extreme carry its point, what is that so far forth but dissolution of the Union? If a new State, formed from the territory of the United States, be absolutely excluded from admission therein, that fact of itself constitutes the disruption of union between it and the other States. But the process of dissolution could not stop there. Would not a sectional decision producing such result by a majority of votes either northern or southern, of necessity drive out the oppressed and aggrieved minority, and place in presence of each other two unconciliable hostile confederations?

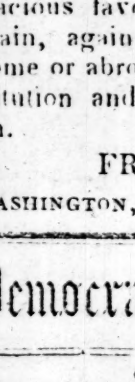
It is necessary to speak thus plainly of projects, the offspring of that sectional agitation now prevailing in some of the States, which are as impracticable as they are unconstitutional, and which, if preserved in, must and will end calamitously. It is either disruption and civil war, or it is mere angry, idle, aimless disturbance of public peace and tranquility. Dismiss for what? If the passionate guidance of fanaticism and partisan spirit did not force the fact upon our attention, it would be difficult to believe, that any considerable portion of the people of this enlightened country could have so surrendered themselves to a fanatical devotion to the supposed interests of the relatively few Africans in the United States, as totally to abandon and disregard the interests of the twenty-five millions of Americans, to trample under foot the injunctions of

and constitutional obligation to engage in plans of vindictive hostility against those who are associated with them in the enjoyment of the common heritage of our national institutions.

Nor is it hostility against their fellow-citizens of one section of the Union alone. The interests, the honor, the duty, the peace, and the prosperity of the people of all sections are equally involved in all imperils in this question. And the patriotic men in any part of the Union prepared, on such an issue, thus early to invite all the consequences of a forfeiture of their constitutional engagements? It is impossible. The storm phrensy and faction must inevitably sink itself in vain against the unshakable rock of the constitution. I shall never buck it. I know that the Union is stronger a thousand times than all the wild and chimerical schemes of social change, which are generated, one after another, in the unstable minds of visionary sophists and interested agitators.—I rely confidently on the patriotism of a people, on the dignity and self-respect of the States, on the wisdom of Congress, and above all, on the continuous gracious favor of Almighty God, to maintain, against all enemies, whether home or abroad, the sanctity of the constitution and the integrity of the Union.

FRANKLIN PIERCE.
WASHINGTON, December, 31, 1855.

Democratic Pioneer.



TUESDAY MORNING, JAN. 8, 1856.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Occupies all of our editorial space for this week, and occupies it much better than any thing else which could possibly be supplied. We have no opportunity for comment upon this noble State paper, further than to say, that it fills up the measure of Democratic expectation, and even sends the mouths of croaking Know-Nothings. That part of the Message which relates to the slavery question, is all that Southern men could desire. Read every word of this noble document—it will furnish abundant reasons for patriotic thought, and challenge the admiration of every man who regards the compromises of the Constitution and sincerely desires to secure the continuance of our glorious Union.

THE FARMERS' BANK OF NORTH CAROLINA

HAS declared a dividend of its profits for the last six months of 1000 per cent., payable to stockholders on and after the 15th inst. By order of the President and Directors. jun 8—3c

FOR SALE, HIRE, AND RENT.

ON MONDAY, the 27th day of January inst., at the residence of the late James N. Whedbee, dec'd, near Deep Creek, will be sold, all the Household and Kitchen Furniture, farming utensils, stock of various kinds, horses, mules, cattle and hogs, a very fine pair of carriage horses, 3 pair carry log wheels, of different sizes, one or two of them extra large, 4000 and 6000, 6000 barrels corn, 40 to 50 thousand pounds fodder, 10 thousand set poplar timber, the most of which will be at the water's edge, 600 to 800 cords of wood, 50 thousand cypress shingles of very superior quality, and about ten thousand white oak hog-head staves, wood, shingles and staves at the water's edge, from 4000 to 5000 pounds bacon and pork from 25 to 30 fat hogs.

At the same time will be offered for rent the entire farm, with dwelling house thereon, for the present year. Also for hire between 40 and 50 likely negroes of both sexes.

THE EXECUTORS.

Jan. 8.—14.

PROPOSALS FOR A LOAN TO THE COUNTY OF CURRITUCK.

In accordance with the provisions of an act of the Assembly, incorporating a Company to construct a Ship Canal to unite the waters of Albemarle and Currituck and Pamlico Sounds, the County of Currituck has subscribed to the capital stock of the Great Bridge Lumber and Canal Company forty-four thousand dollars.

In order to meet the instalments which may be due and which may hereafter become due on said subscription, the said county proposes to negotiate a loan of fifty thousand dollars, to be secured by the bonds of the county.

By the order directing the issue of said Bonds, the holder will bear interest at the rate of six per cent per annum payable semi-annually at the Exchange Bank of Virginia at Norfolk, or at the Branch Bank of the State of North Carolina, at Elizabeth City, at the option of the Holder.

These bonds will be redeemable on the 1st day of July, 1876, and not before without the consent of the holder, and will be issued in sums of one thousand dollars each with coupons attached, which will render the collection of the interest easy.

The security upon which these said bonds will be issued, will be the real estate and taxable polls of the county of Currituck.

Proposals for the said loan will be received until the 25th day of February (Court day) next.

For further information apply to Marshall Marks Esq., President Great Bridge Lumber and Canal Company, 34 West Main street, Norfolk.

The undersigned at Currituck Court House, V. G.

JOHN B. JONES.
JOHNATHAN B. LINDSEY.
CALEB J. ETHERIDGE.

Agents for the county of Currituck.

Jan. 1st—24.

NOTICE.

ON the 15th day of February, 1856, if fair, if not the next fair day thereafter, by virtue of a mortgage executed by M. C. Jones on the 13th day of February, 1853, I shall proceed to sell for the purpose of satisfying said mortgage, the following property, to wit: the HOUSE and LOT and TOILET on which I formerly resided, in the upper part of Pasquotank County containing 24 ac. & more or less.

Term made known on day of sale.

Jan. 1, 1856—17 F. S. PROCOR.

BUSINESS CARDS.

[K. VAUGHAN.] [THOS. GASKINS]

FRANK VAUGHAN & CO.
ENTLEMEN'S AND BOY'S
FURNISHING STORE,
ROAD STREET,
E. CITY, N. C.
HOUSE, SIGN
AND
ORNAMENTAL PAINTING.
Our subscriber begs leave to return his sincere thanks to the citizens of Elizabeth City surrounding country for the very liberal patronage bestowed upon him during the last year, and to solicit a continuance of the same for the future, with the assurance that every effort will be made by him to give perfect satisfaction. The firm of Bland & Richardson having been dissolved, the undersigned is prepared to receive and execute all orders on his individual account.
THOMAS R. BLAND.

DR. WM. G. TOOL.
Offers his professional services to the citizens of Elizabeth City, and Pasquotank and other counties. His office is two doors from Court House, where he may be found at all hours (night and day), and when not engaged elsewhere, at any place designated by express or otherwise requested at the expiration of twelve months.
By arrangement with Mrs. Lamb, the Carpenter at Bridge will be free to all messengers visiting on professional business.
City, July, 1854.

FRANK VAUGHAN. **THOMAS GASKINS.**

FRANK VAUGHAN & CO.
ELIZABETH CITY, N. C.
DEALERS IN
Hand-made Clothing for Men and Boys: Hats, Caps, Boots, Shoes, Gaiters, Straws, Trunks, Pumps, Cravats, Shirts, Drawers, Collars, Hats, Bids., Half-boots, Gloves, Suspenders, Canes, Umbrellas, and a variety of Toilet Articles.
ONE PRICE ONLY—5 PER CENT OFF FOR CASH.
No. 10, 1857.

[J. BAKER.] [T. I. BARRACUD.]

BAKER & BARRAUD,
GRAIN, LUMBER, AND GEN'L.
COMMISSION MERCHANTS.
HIGH ST. & PIERCE'S WHARF,
PORTSMOUTH, VA.

N. B. WILROY,
COMMISSION MERCHANT,
No. 10, 1857.
Will give strict attention to all consignments entrusted to his care. For Commissions on all grain 14 per cent.
Nov 23, 1856—1y

EDWARD DELANY,
UNION STREET,
NORFOLK, VIRGINIA.
MANUFACTURER OF Copper, Tin, Sheet Iron and japanned Ware, of Machine and Mill Work, of all kinds of Castings, and a large assortment of STOVES constantly on hand.
His charges in every case shall be moderate, and the patronage of the public is respectfully solicited.
A. B. - Sheets altered to burn Ethereal Oil.
No. 10, 1857.
EDWARD DELANY,
NORFOLK, VA.

EGGERTON'S VIRGINIA HOUSE,
NO. 4 SOUTH CALVERT STREET,
BALTIMORE, MD.
HAVING made considerable improvements in the House, I am now prepared to accommodate a large number of Permanent and immediate boarders. The Virginia House is in the centre of the business portion of Baltimore, and is as convenient and comfortable as accommodations in any Hotel in the city.
No. 4

L. J. JOHNSON,
ATTORNEY AT LAW.
I WILL practice in all the Courts of Gates County, Perquimans, Pasquotank, Camden and other counties, and offers his professional services to those who may need them.
The office is on the corner formerly occupied by Gen'l. Harris, dec'd.
Elizabeth City, May 21, 1855—1y

[D. SIMMONS.] [D. D. SIMMONS.]

D. D. SIMMONS & BRO.,
GENERAL COMMISSION & FORWARDING MERCHANTS.
NORFOLK, VA.

F. W. SEABURY,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALER IN
BOOTS, SHOES, TRUNKS,
LEATHER, &c. &c.
No. 13 Market Square,
NORFOLK, VA.

KEEPS constantly on hand an extensive assortment of goods. The front store being appropriated for Ladies', Misses', Children's retail shoes; the centre for Trunks, Valises, &c. &c. The back store for Plantation Boots and Brogans; the upper stories for wholesale Goods, Leather, and the Boot and Shoe manufacture.
N. B. - Particular attention paid to keeping up the qualities Plantation Boots and Brogans in all varieties.
at City, August 31

J. H. WHITEHURST'S
ELECTRO DUCHERRETYPE'S
GALLERIES.
207 Baltimore Street, Baltimore.
77 Main Street, Richmond, Va.
Main Street, Norfolk, Va.
Spruance Street, Elizabethburg, Va.
Stymore Street, Lynchburg, Va.
N. B. - Licenses are judiciously well in all the above places.
at City, August 31

[J. H. BEID.] [THOS. G. KAHN.]

REID & NASH,
COMMISSION MERCHANTS,
83 PEARL STREET,
New York.
Cash advances made upon consignments of Wines, &c. &c.

REFERENCES:
Messrs. T. S. Kent, Esq., Pres't Bank Republic of Vt. Souther.
Messrs. How & March N. Y.
Messrs. E. Richmond Esq., Plymouth, N. C.
Messrs. McCall Esq., Norfolk, Va.
Messrs. Reid & Spitzer Norfolk, Va.
Messrs. Anderson & Reynolds, Norfolk, Va.
Messrs. S. Webb, Esq., Cash'r Windsor, N. C.
at City, September 11—1y

MRS. RITTER & SAUNDERS, having associated themselves in the practice of medicine, respectfully tender their professional services in all its branches to the inhabitants of the City and adjoining country.
at City, Oct. 6, 1855

L. K. SANDERS.

W. GEORGE GRANBERY,
ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR
AT LAW,
HAVING removed to Currituck County, will attend all the Courts of Perquimans, Pasquotank, Camden and Currituck Counties. All business entrusted to his hands will receive prompt attention.
Office at Currituck Court-house.
at City 11—1y

MR. UNDERSIGNED having administered on the estate of Dr. William Hodges deceased, hereby requests all persons indebted to said Estate to make immediate payment to him, and all persons having any claims, to present them immediately.
R. PIEMONT.
E. City, Dec. 25th 1855.—Gt.

NOVEMBER 20th.
Large lot of **LOU'S CLOTHING** received today.
FRANK VAUGHAN & CO.

REPORTER AND MANUFACTURER OF
RIFLES, PISTOLS, SPORTING APPARATUS
AND KINO CUTLERY.
No. 12, Union Street, Norfolk, Va.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL
TRAPPEL OF FASHION,
BY R. H. STEVENS.

The "Practical" has brought out the entire interest of Wm. S. Stevens, who will continue the business in all its branches at the well known stand of Stevens & Butt. It affords a great pleasure to us to see the very large patronage extended to the late firm and the public that no effort, attention or shall be wanting to render ample satisfaction and secure the continued confidence of our people.

Spring Stock will be very large and beautiful already received One hundred and Fifty cases of Hats, embracing every variety and quality, personally selected from the manufacturers in the East, at the lowest prices thereby enabling me to compete with my former Dealers.

Customers will find (as they always have) assortment to suit their market. As I am now a universal penetration of our establishments includes the necessity of saving much on cost, it is known that our styles are unique and very striking and great beauty, which cannot be surpassed.

MY SPRING STYLE

In production of much thought, and is adapted by every one of taste. My style for men is particularly adapted, and superior to any pattern until this season. I am now ready to furnish quantities of either for lists of my own making, and that for elegance of finish, beauty of style, durability and cheapness are not surpassed by most experienced of the trade. You are respectfully solicited to call early, and leave your orders as soon as possible.

A few sets of Ladies Fur on hand, will sell without regard to cost. Call soon and see a necessary and cheap appendage to your wardrobe.

R. H. STEVENS,
Practical Hat-Maker,
No. 7, Market Square,
Norfolk, Va.

MORE NEW BOOKS.

CROCKEY & GRIFFITH are in receipt of the following new works, just issued, viz:
Cavalry Home or the Employment of Soldiers of all the Nations in History, by A. B. Crompton, A. N. - \$10.00
The South in Italy, by Geo. Stillman Hamard - \$2.50
Stories from History and Biography, by Nath'l Hawthorne - \$5.00
The Life of George Washington and Morris, being Lord Webster Book, by Hawthorne - \$7.50
Home-Book for Boys and Girls, by Nath'l Hawthorne - \$8.00
Biographic Sketches, being selections grave and gay, from writings published and unpublished, by Thomas DeQuincy - \$5.00
The Garden of an Apple, illustrated, by John Alcott - \$5.00. The above, with many other new books, just published and for sale by
CROCKEY & GRIFFITH,
No. 20, FIFTH ST.,
NORFOLK, VA.

SPRING STOCK OF TIN WARE,
Wholesale and Retail. 1855.

R. SMALL & CO., respectfully invite Merchants from Virginia and North Carolina to examine their Spring Stock of TIN WARE, comprising every article usually sold to merchants, being of our own manufacture. As A. W. SMALL has the entire control of the manufacturing department, he being a practical smith, you can assure that our goods, for durability and elegant cut, cannot be surpassed anywhere in Virginia.

MERCHANTS' WARE

10 pails, 1 to 10 qts, plain and riveted
do do do do do do
Boilers, 2 to 16 do do do
at water pumps, put to 20 quarts
1 quart to 16 do
do bowls, 3 sizes
pans, 4 sizes, round and oval
pots, 1 pint to 4 quarts
cups, 1 gallon to 10 gallons
pumps, 15 to 120 pailons
various goods of every description
for public buildings, steam boats, sailing vessels, etc.
JALANAY'S GOODS. Ed
pitchers and basins
cups, various patterns
boxes, wine coolers
trays and tea trays, square and oval
of various kinds with weights complete
at water-cocks, laid and painted to order
no this market, all sizes
generators of the most approved patterns
ing apparatus of all kinds
and well pumps from the principal man
ufacturers in the country.

J. R. SMALL & CO.,
No. 6, Union St., Norfolk Va.
Agents of the Mammoth Octagon Show Case.

LITTLE GIANT PATENT
SCOTCH AND COB MILL.
A LITTLE GIANT PATENT SCOTCH MILL, 1854.
The Construction of Planter's, Farmers' and Stock-owners in general, is respectfully called this Mill is the most important article of the mill is not only well adapted for grinding Corn Meal, Sugar, But for the kind and especially Good Meal from corn against the ordinary in the fall.

Setting this Mill, no mechanic or frame work needed, only requiring to be fastened to a platform. Easily adjusted and used by one person, by a child.

A LITTLE GIANT has received the first prize at the late Agricultural Fair of Miss. Kentucky, Maryland, Virginia, and others, and is now the most complimentary, and useful as well as the most economical machine from the flour and witnessing its produce.

These Mills are guaranteed in the most perfect manner, and are warranted to grind 1 bushel of wheat or hour with one horse and eat up the low price of \$34, all complete, reaching attaching the team, No. 4 at \$66 grinds six bushels per hour with 2 horses.

Agents in Norfolk, Va.
BORUM & McCLEAN,
No. 10, Head Quarter, No. 11, Wide Water St.

FALL STOCK—1855.

HANK VAUGHAN & CO. have just returned from the North with by far the most extensive and splendid stock of READY-MADE CLOTHING AND FURNISHINGS. Their CARRIAGES ever brought to this place have spared no time and expense in selecting selections. The largest stocks of Philadelphia and New York have been thoroughly examined, and a great deal of their clothing is at as low as the cheapest Street and Broadway would call particular attention to their of BOYS' and YOUTH'S Clothing, of which they have a beautiful variety, and an excellent quality, to fit boys from 4 years old and upwards.

They have added to their establishment a MANUFACTURING DEPARTMENT, and have equipped the services of a SCIENTIFIC TAILOR, are prepared to furnish at short notice any article of Men's or Boys' Clothing (overhauling). The public are respectfully invited to call and examine their extensive stock of hats, cassimeres, Vestings, &c. &c. They have a splendid lot of Canes and Umbrellas.

PRINCIPAL FEATURES
REDUCTION PRICE ONLY! Five per cent deducted for all cash sales. Small profits and sales. Short standing of accounts.

FRANK VAUGHAN & CO.

supply of No. 1 Negro and T
dec 4 W. T. & J. M. HIX

GILLING THREAD.
lbs. Nos. 2-25, 8-25, and
ling thread, for sale by
dec 1 W. T. & J. M. HIX